

THE CALCUTTA JOURNAL.

OF

Politics and General Literature.

VOL. I.]

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 2, 1822.

[No. 2.

MISCELLANEOUS.

—13—

Restrictive Laws—Public Opinion.

BY LORD JOHN RUSSELL.

Per me ho adottata nell' intero la legge d'Inghilterra, ed a quella mi attengo; nè fo mai nessuno scritto che non potesse liberissimamente e senza biasimo nessuno dell' autore essere stampato nella beata e veramente sola libera Inghilterra. Opinioni, quanti se ne vuole: individui offesi, nessuno: costumi, rispettati sempre. Queste sono state, e saranno sempre le sole mie leggi; nè altre se ne può ragionevolmente ammettere, nè rispettare. — ALPIERI, *Vita*, t. 2. p. 133.

There can be no doubt that public opinion acquired prodigious force during the late reign, not that the power of opinion is, as some suppose, a complete novelty in this country, or an exclusive attribute of a free constitution. It was public opinion which induced the soldiers on Hounslow Heath to shout when the Bishops were acquitted; it was public opinion which obliged Sir Robert Walpole to relinquish the excise scheme. Even in despotic countries opinion has its weight: it dismissed Squillace from the government of Spain. In Turkey also we are told, that when the people are discontented, they set fire to a house. It is or was the custom for the Sultan always to assist at a fire, and thus an opportunity is found of telling him those unpleasant truths, which would never otherwise reach his ear. This, to be sure, is a strange method of giving constitutional advice.

The chief advantage, then, of a free government, is not the existence of public opinion, but that it is exerted in favour of the wholesome rights and established liberties of the people.

There is another circumstance with respect to public opinion, which is of more importance than any. It is, that opinion has become much more sensitive, and men are more disposed to go to extremes than they ever were before. Since the beginning of the present reign, a popular party has appeared, which professes itself dissatisfied with the measure of liberty secured to us at the Revolution. Others have followed them, who, generally perhaps without any serious intention, have found pleasure in trying how far violence of language would be permitted. There has naturally arisen, in the opposite quarter of the heavens, another party, who cling to ease and quiet, and would fain see political discussion silenced altogether. In times of great ferment, the dissensions of these parties become highly dangerous to all regular and sober freedom. Thus, at the beginning of the French revolution, Mr. Burke having got a hold of the public mind, raised a spirit of the most bitter persecution against all who did not approve of the policy of the war. The extreme nervousness of the nation made it unsafe to indulge any honest difference in politics. The minister, by instituting trials for treason, gave in to and promoted the popular fury; and had it not been for Mr. Erskine's eloquence, it is impossible to say whether the lives of Mr. Fox and all the chief of his party might not have been sacrificed to the rage and fear of the alarmists. The demagogues of the day, on the other hand, lose no opportunity of exciting the people, in times of distress, to acts of outrage and rebellion. The quiet and well-disposed, and indeed all persons of property, naturally take the alarm. The panic is increased by miserable wretches, who imitate the language of demagogues, in order to inspire terror into the community, and strengthen the ministers of the day. The evil of violent language and blasphemous publications, however, admits of an easy remedy. We have laws sufficiently strong against sedition and tumult; it is only necessary to put

them in force. Instead of this, two other methods have been taken; both, in my mind, injudicious, and one extremely dangerous. The first is the suspension of the Habeas Corpus Act. Now this is a very proper precaution, when a conspiracy is carried on by a few principal leaders whose imprisonment puts an end to the plot. But it is no remedy at all, when the evil consists in the discontent of some thousands of unemployed manufacturers. *Uno avulso non deficit alter*: the subalterns, in conducting these popular humours, are fully as able and audacious as the chiefs. The other remedy consists in new laws, restraining the right of speaking and writing. Acts of this kind interpose obstacles to public meetings and public newspapers, and serve to discountenance, for a time, by the authority of Parliament, the abuses of liberty which have prevailed. But it is manifest, that it is impossible to prevent sedition and blasphemy, unless all freedom of speech and the liberty of the press be extinguished. It is impossible to provide before hand, by act of Parliament, that all speeches and writings shall keep within the bounds of loyalty, and moderation. Therefore, the restraining laws are, except for the moment, inefficient. They are also pernicious; for they admit a principle, which, if pushed to its full extent, authorises a censorship of the press. They are, therefore, in direct opposition to the maxims of the Revolution, which allowed any man to do freely, that which in itself was harmless. Even the riot Act, which is justly reckoned a law of great severity, imposes no penalty or restraint, except upon persons who are in the actual commission of a riot. Those, indeed, who have lived in latter times, have reason to praise the moderation of the government, which preserved itself from a Pretender and his party with so little expense to public liberty.

It would seem, that we have now gone as far as it is possible to go safely upon the system of restraint. If blasphemy and sedition again alarm the timid, they must be suppressed by the ordinary laws: otherwise we must either admit a censorship, or surrender the present mode of trial by jury.

It is to be hoped, that, rather than adopt either of these tyrannical expedients, England would impeach the minister, who gave such atrocious advice to his sovereign.

Let us now pass to the law of libel, the security by which the liberty of the press is to be protected. Blackstone tells us that libels, in the sense in which we are speaking, are "malicious defamations of any person, and especially a magistrate, made public by either printing, writing, signs, or pictures, in order to provoke him to wrath, or expose him to public hatred, contempt, and ridicule." He tells us that "the communication of a libel to any one person, is a publication in the eye of the law;" and that "it is immaterial, with respect to the essence of a libel, whether the matter be true or false!" Thus, then, a man may be punished for any writing on the conduct of a minister which may expose him to public hatred, contempt, and ridicule; although the allegations contained in it be true, and it has only been shown to one person. To make this power more formidable, the judges were wont formerly to maintain that they alone had the power of deciding whether the writing were libel or no; and that the jury were only called upon to decide upon the fact of the publication. Here indeed is a law of tyrants! How has the liberty of the press ever survived it?

The miracle is soon explained.—The prosecutor on the part of the crown, contented himself with putting in the paper,

and proving the publication. The counsel for the accused always dwelt upon the hardship of convicting any man for the publication of a writing without examining whether that writing was innocent or pernicious. The jury felt the injustice of the proceeding, and generally acquitted the accused. The libel bill of Mr. Fox, then, while it afforded a just protection to the public press, was rendered necessary by the breach which has taken place between the law and the men bound to administer it.

I cannot leave this subject of libel without mentioning the hardship to which accused persons are still subjected by being tried by special juries. These juries are, in the country, the nominees of the crown. Surely in a case where the powers of the government are brought to bear against an individual in so delicate a matter as seditious libel, the subject ought to have a protection somewhat similar to that which he is allowed in cases of high treason, of challenging peremptorily thirty-five of the jury.

A Tax Repealed.—We have this week, for the first time since the commencement of our labours, pleasure to inform our readers, that a tax has been repealed. Mr. CURWEN's motion for leave to bring in a bill to repeal the duty on horses employed in agriculture, was carried, in opposition to Ministers, by a majority of 141 to 113. It was indeed believed that Ministers would do in this case, as they had done in the case of the malt-duty, and procure the rejection of the bill in some future stage. But the influence of the landed gentlemen in the House, and the disinclination of Ministers to do any thing to forfeit their support, has induced them to withdraw their opposition to the repeal of the tax, which may therefore be considered as at an end. For our own parts, we do not look on the tax on horses as one that is particularly objectionable; and we should have been much better pleased had it been continued, and the tax on leather, or an equivalent portion of the tax on salt, repealed. At the same time, it cannot be denied, that the great evil of our system of taxation consists, not so much in any wrong selection of its objects, as in the unprecedented and grinding extent to which it has been carried. And every reduction from its gross amount, though it may, in the first instance, be principally advantageous to a particular class, must, in the end, be equally advantageous to the community in general.

The debate on Mr. CURWEN's motion was not a little interesting. The experience of the last six years has evidently not been thrown away on the landlords, and they are now beginning to be satisfied, that something more than the mere exclusion of foreign corn from our markets is necessary to enable them to keep up their rents to the war level. Nor are we at all sorry that the landlords have been sent to learn wisdom in the school of adversity. Their blind and undistinguishing support of "every set of men honoured with his Majesty's confidence," has been the cause of all the calamities they are now suffering; for it was this alone which enabled Ministers to impose that enormous load of taxes, which hangs like a millstone round the neck of the country, and which, if it be not greatly reduced, cannot fail to deluge the whole land with pauperism and misery. But we have no doubt that such a reduction will, ere long, be effected. The diminution of their rent-rolls, and the rapid increase of the poor's rates and other public burdens, has already had a wonderful effect in sharpening the intellect of the country squires. Even Mr. GOSCH, the Ceryphæus of this enlightened race, President of the late Pitt dinner, and the thick and thin supporters of Ministers, is become the eulogist of Mr. HUME; and states, that "he feels it to be his duty to declare his conviction, that the honourable member's efforts during the present session had been of the greatest service to the country." This is really refreshing—and should the price of corn fortunately continue to decline for another year or two, there is every reason to expect, that the GOOSHES, the BURRELLS, the GIPPS, the KNATCHBULLS, and all that endless *et cetera* of Fox-hunters, who swelled the chorus of the ministerial pack, so long as the pressure of taxation was hardly felt by them and their friends, will be the foremost to join in the cry for economy and retrenchment.—*Scotsman*.

Agricultural Horse Tax.—The defeat upon the division for the Agricultural Horse Tax appears to have completely paralysed the writers for the Treasury. Not a single pen has been raised in their defence upon this question; and the Scribes who can be so eloquent on many occasions, are now all aghast to know what is to happen. However, our readers may be assured, Ministers have resolved on making the most solemn promises, that prior to the next Session, Economy shall be the order of the day throughout every department of the State. Now, it must not be forgotten, we had precisely the same assurances at the time of the appointment of the celebrated Finance Committee; when the Marquis of Londonderry, in a speech, or rather prologue to the drama, entertained us by a laboured eulogy upon the utility of an opposition, and the benefits derived from so wholesome a control upon the Government. The people were told this Committee would sit for the sole purpose of remedying the abuses so universally deplored, and were affectingly entreated to suspend their judgment, and to repress all clamour, until satisfied of their sincerity by their actions. The Committee did sit, and presented several Reports; and upon the recommendations contained in such reports, many of the recent motions have been made for procuring reductions in the Estimates. The Ministers, it will be recollected, had their own majority in preparing those Reports, and yet Lord Palmerston and Mr. Ward were instructed very coolly and somewhat jocosely to inquire, "whether the House were always to be bound by the opinion of a Committee?" Now we ask, is this the dignified conduct of a Government professing a degree of paternal solicitude for the welfare of a community, or would such unworthy arts appear rather to emanate from a few unprincipled jugglers, regardless by what shift, trick, or contrivance they can get through their ceremonial for the evening? But the public are no longer to be deceived, and not even the eloquence and poetry of Mr. Canning can divert the attention of any considerate man from the shocking system of extravagance under which the nation groans. What must be the sensations of a family, in the middle ranks of life, when they read over the Lists of Superannuated Allowances, and see the hundreds of thousands there expended—expended too, in numberless instances, for no other purpose than to create vacancies for new claimants under promise of promotion? We implore those who have the power, to correct the evil in time, and to reflect well upon the warnings afforded us by the sufferings of France. During the latter part of the reign of Louis XV. any Nobleman presuming to plead for the sufferings of the people, and to talk of economy, became the subject of the jests and ridicule of the Court, whence he was speedily ejected as a sort of leper too dangerous for communication. And if any individual in the more humble stations of society presumed to remonstrate, he, by the prompt ceremony of a *lettre de cachet*, was conveyed within the walls of the Bastille, where the midnight assassin silenced all remonstrances. Things thus went quietly on; one abuse submitted to, encouraged the addition of another, until the fatal tragedy took place which forms an epoch in the history of the world. That such fatal excesses should take place here, we can never fear. The British people are famed for their generosity and good nature, and we are anxious these qualities should beget for them at least some considerate return, rather than to see their generosity made use of as an instrument, whereby to ridicule and insult them for their credulity.—*Morning Chronicle*.

Walking on the Water.—Mr. Kent exhibited his apparatus for walking on the water, on Tuesday afternoon, (June 19) at New-haven; and after amusing himself about the pier for sometime, went out to the Roads, and round the guard ship, returning to the pier in a boat. Last week, he walked across the Firth from New-haven to Burnt-island, and on Thursday he crossed the Queensferry, in presence of the Duke of Atholl and several other noblemen and gentlemen. Friday afternoon he exhibited on the sea at Portobello, before a great concourse of spectators. He went out about a mile from the shore and walked backwards and forwards for some time. Men were stationed at different places with boxes to collect money from the people assembled, and we understand a handsome sum was obtained.—*Scotsman*.

Mr. Scarlett's Bill.

MR. SCARLETT'S BILL—CAUSES OF THE INCREASE OF PAUPERISM.

In whatever country the difficulty of living becomes great, there will be poverty, wretchedness, and crime. Taxation has taken away from the labouring classes such a proportion of the produce of their earnings, and from all others so much of the funds otherwise destined for the employment and reward of labour, that general embarrassment and distress could not but ensue; and these are ever the fruitful parents of poverty and crime.—*Magridge on the Poor Laws.*

Mr. SCARLETT's bill for amending the Poor laws, has attracted a large share of the public attention. The subject is certainly of vast importance, and deserves the maturest consideration. It is a question, in the decision of which, every class of people in the country have a deep interest; and any attempt to carry it through Parliament without affording every possible facility for having it fully discussed, both in and out of doors, ought to be reprobated in the strongest manner. From what has hitherto transpired, there seems no reason to doubt that the public opinion is decidedly hostile to the bill. The opposition of those who are friendly to the principle of a legal provision for the support of the poor, might have indeed been expected as a matter of course; but we do not think that Mr. SCARLETT's bill will be viewed in a much more favourable light by those who, like ourselves, are decidedly hostile to every such provision.

On this point, our opinions have undergone no change. We are satisfied, that until some means shall be devised of clearly distinguishing between that misery which has sprung from accidental and uncontrollable causes, and that which has arisen from the folly or ill conduct of the individual, a legal provision for the support of the poor must necessarily weaken the motives to industry and good conduct, and strengthen those of an opposite character. No man, it must be remembered, loves either exertion or industry for their own sakes. All have some end in view,—some purpose which is to be served, and the accomplishment of which is to repay the toils and privations to which they may at present submit. But the care of providing immediate subsistence, and of amassing a little capital for the support of age and infirmity, must, with the great body of mankind, be the principal motive impelling them to industry and economy; and whatever tends to weaken this motive will assuredly diminish their exertions to an equal extent. Such, however, is the necessary effect of the legal establishment of poor rates; for it cannot be denied, that if any particular class of individuals are aware that the State is bound to support them if they happen to be reduced to indigence, a very great stimulus to their industry, sobriety, and economy will be removed. This, we conceive, forms an insuperable objection to the holding out a certainty of relief to the poor. All should be taught to depend on their own exertions, at most, to trust only to a free, and, if we may use the phrase, an unconstrained charity.

Perhaps, however, the strongest objection to an established poor's rate is to be found in its tendency to derange the natural relation between the supply and demand for labour. If society were left to take care of itself, workmen, on finding that their wages would not suffice for the proper support of a family, would be deterred from marriage; and the check thus given to population, by lessening the supply of labour, would keep its real price up to the proper level. But this principle is effectually counteracted by the English poor laws. They have rendered it a matter of comparative indifference to the labourer whether his wages would support a family or not. When insufficient, it has been customary to make up the deficit from the parish funds, so that, in this way, the salutary check on over population, which otherwise would have been in constant operation, has been completely removed. It is plain, however, that any institution which tends to multiply labour beyond the demand, must be extremely prejudicial to the best interests of the poor. Whenever the market is overstocked with labour, its real price declines; and, although it cannot fall lower than the sum barely necessary to maintain the labourer and his family, still it may be reduced to that miserable pittance. This is a consequence which ought to be carefully guarded against, and to this the poor laws directly lead. By giving a factitious stimulus to population, they sink the wages of labour; while it is by no means true that the public provision makes up for the reduction. The labourer who has been reduced to a total or partial dependence on this resource, receives only such an allowance as the parish may choose to give him. His independence is at an end. He does not treat with a churchwarden, as with an employer, on a footing of equality; he must take what his liberality may offer; and he must bid adieu to all those comforts and gratifications which every independent workman ought to enjoy.

But, although we are thus ready to concede, that the the Poor laws are really productive of that very degradation and misery they were humanely intended to alleviate, we protest against being classed amongst

those who represent them as the main causes of that rapid deterioration in the condition of the lower classes we have lately witnessed. To deny that the Poor laws are an efficient cause of the redundancy of labour and of the decline of wages, is a very great error; but it is venial when compared with the error, if we may so designate it, of those who would ascribe to their operation all that wide-spread and deeply seated misery, occasioned by the waste and destruction of the national capital during the late war, by the sudden and excessive increase of taxation, and by the barbarous restraints which prevent the labourer from purchasing his food in the cheapest market. We believe the poor laws to have been most pernicious; but we should be supporting a miserable delusion, and betraying our duty to the public, if we did not endeavour to shew, that we must seek elsewhere for the principal causes of the late frightful increase of pauperism, and that measures to enable the poor to support themselves ought, in justice, to precede the repeal of the laws entitling them to claim support from others.

In every inquiry into the effects of the Poor laws, it is necessary to bear in mind that they were established in their present form by the act of the 43d of ELIZABETH in 1621. The system of a compulsory provision has not, therefore, been lately organised. On the contrary, it has been acted upon for more than two centuries; and, for the last hundred years, can be considered in no other point of view than as a constantly operating principle, of which the effect, in different periods, must have been nearly equal. The first estimate, which can be depended on, of the sums expended on the poor of England, was framed so late as 1776; but several well-informed contemporary authors state, that at the commencement of the last century the rates amounted to about one million.* In 1776, it was ascertained, from the returns made under the act of that year, that the whole sum raised by assessment, and expended on the poor, amounted to £1,720,311. And from similar returns it was ascertained, that the average expenditure, on account of the poor, for 1793-4, and 5, being the years immediately subsequent to the American war, amounted to £2,167,748. It is to be regretted that there is no account of the poor's rates previous to the commencement of the late war in 1793; but from the very great extension of commerce, and the universal improvement that had taken place in the interval, we should certainly be warranted in supposing that it had diminished considerably; and hence, provided the estimate of the amount of the rates in 1700 be not extremely incorrect, it may be concluded that they had about doubled in the first ninety-three years of the last century. But, during the last twenty-seven years the former rate of increase has been entirely changed. In 1803 the total sum raised on account of the poor amounted to £5,348,204, or to two and a half times the sum raised for the same purpose at the close of the American war; and according to the late reports of the Committee of the House of Commons on the Poor laws, the average expenditure of 1813, 14, and 15, amounted to no less than £8,164,496—a sum which, if it has not since been increased, has certainly not been diminished.

This statement renders it clear to demonstration, that the excessive increase of pauperism since 1793, cannot, as has been very generally supposed, possibly be owing to the Poor laws. Their operation may go far to account for the gradual and regular increase of pauperism from the reign of ELIZABETH down to that period; but it will afford no explanation of its late irregular and enormous increase. In the course of the comparatively short period which has elapsed since 1793, the rates which had only doubled in the previous part of the eighteenth century, have increased in a fourfold proportion, or from two to eight millions. Now, although the variations in the value of money since the restriction act must have had some effect in increasing the amount of the rates, yet neither these variations, nor the influence of the laws themselves, could possibly have occasioned so unprecedented an extension of the rates, or such a degradation in the condition of the lower classes, as we have lately witnessed. Other, and more powerful causes have unquestionably conspired to produce this effect; and when these have been discovered and removed, or in other words, when the poor have been enabled to support themselves on the produce of their industry, we may set about repealing those laws, which would then operate only as incentives to idleness, but which are at this moment necessary to existence.

Fortunately there is not much room for dispute about the causes which have occasioned the late extraordinary pressure on the poor's rates. There can be no manner of doubt, that it is merely a necessary consequence of the sudden and excessive increase of taxation, and of the operation of the Corn laws. The Government has abstracted so large a share of the produce of labour, that the remainder is quite insufficient to afford adequate profits and wages. From whatever premises we may set out, this is the plain and incontrovertible conclusion to which we must come at last.

* Sir Frederick M. Eden on the State of the Poor, vol. i. p. 408. The poor rates, in the latter part of the reign of Charles II., were estimated at £,665,000.—*Davenant's Works*, vol. i. p. 39.

Since 1793 the public burdens imposed on the people of Britain have been augmented with a rapidity unknown in any other age of country. No source of revenue, however trifling, and no necessary, however indispensable, not to comfort merely, but to existence, has been able to elude the grasp of the tax-gatherer. As an example of the rapacity of the Treasury, we may mention, that the duty on tea, which in 1793 only amounted to 12 per cent. is now more than eight times as much, or 100 per cent. The duty on salt, which amounts (in England) to 15s. a bushel, or to about thirty times its natural cost, was tripled in 1805. The duty on leather, after being stationary for more than a century, was doubled in 1812. And the various duties on sugar, beer, spirits, soap, candle, tobacco, &c. besides the house-tax, window-tax, and stamp-duties, have all been increased in similar proportions! But, in order to shew the progress of taxation, it is not necessary to engage in the endless and irksome task of enumerating the different articles on which new duties have been imposed, or the old ones increased. It is sufficient to mention, that the total payments into the Exchequer in 1793, on account of permanent and temporary duties, and exclusive of loans, amounted to £17,674,395; in 1804 they had increased to £49,355,978; or to nearly three times their amount in 1793; in 1808 they exceeded the enormous sum of 66 millions; and, in 1820, in the fifth year of peace, they amounted to £50,365,260, or to considerably more than their amount in the eleventh year of the war. During the American war, the revenue, when greatest, never reached the sum of 13 millions!

But, in addition to this excessive increase of taxation, the price of wheat, which on an average of the twenty years previous to 1793, did not exceed 45s. a quarter, is now increased to at least 90s. and other grain in proportion; and, although this increase of price is chiefly to be ascribed to the imposition of restrictions on the importation of foreign corn, its effects on the condition of the labouring classes are in no respect different from those that would have resulted from the levying of a direct tax of 100 per cent. on all the corn consumed in the empire. It is this enormous increase of the public burdens which has cast down respectable tradesmen, farmers, and manufacturers, from a state of affluence and independence, to one of embarrassment, poverty, and misery,—which has rendered it next to impossible for a young, healthy, able-bodied labourer to support himself by his unaided exertions,—which, notwithstanding all those stupendous discoveries by which production has been so much facilitated, has so very greatly increased the price of almost every species of commodities,—and which, by reducing the rate of profit, has forced capital, or the funds destined for the support of productive industry, to seek employment in France, Belgium, and America.

Until this oppressive load of taxation, or, which is the same thing, until the disproportionately large share of the produce of the capital and industry of the country, seized upon by the Government, shall be diminished, it is worse than idle—it is positively absurd, to talk about repealing or materially amending the Poor laws. Mr. SCARLETT has begun at the wrong end. His scheme, even if it were well digested, which it is not, is totally out of place. He should have commenced by endeavouring to remove the principal causes of pauperism. The total repeal of the Poor laws would be a highly proper and advisable measure if it were made to follow, instead of preceeding, a reduction of taxation, and a repeal of those barbarous regulations which prevent labourers from combining together to raise their wages—which deprive them of the power to purchase their food in the cheapest market, and of the liberty to emigrate to other countries. Humanity and sound policy inculcate alike the necessity of our enabling a labourer to provide for himself, before we entertain any proposal for depriving him of the means of existence. "Let us," says a writer in the Traveller, "free the labourer from those grievous oppressions before we deprive him of the miserable compensation which he now finds in parochial relief. Let us not cut off the industrious classes from every resource, and drive them to utter despair. The Statute Book is crowded with laws, the direct and necessary tendency of which is to deprive the labourer of the power of earning bread for his family. Mr. SCARLETT's bill, therefore, should be passed without a previous revision of our whole economical system, will be neither more nor less than "A law for compelling the labourer, under the penalty of starvation, to do that for his family which the existing laws deprive him of the power of doing."—*Scotsman*, June 16, 1821.

EUROPE MARRIAGES.

At 22, Dublin Street, on the 12th of June, ROBERT MONTGOMERY, Esq. of Craighouse, to JANE, eldest daughter of the late JOHN HALDANE, Esq.

At Edinburgh, on the 11th of June, Dr. WILLIAM CUMIN, Physician, Glasgow, to ANN JOHNSTON, youngest daughter of the deceased WM. KER, Esq. of Kerfield.

At Edinburgh, on the 14th of June, Mr. JOSEPH GIBSON, merchant, Leith, to WILHELMINA, daughter of the Rev. WM. INNES, Edinburgh.

Impromptu.

Occasioned by the recent capture of several Slave Ships, on the African Coast, by an United States' Vessel.

FROM POULSON'S DAILY ADVERTISER.

Detested deed! How cruel are they
That plunge in crime! how doubly deep,
Who boast of mild Religion's sway,
Yet leave their race in chains to weep.
My Country! shall it ever be,
That thou, escaped from Slavery's rod;
Thou, only happy, only free,
Shalt barter too the price of blood?
Say, shall the offspring of that soil,
Which smokes e'en now with veteran gore,
Be sharers in the cruel spoil,
That desolates the Afric shore?
Forbid it, Heaven! each freeman cries;
Forbid it, Feeling! Manhood! Shame!
Then haste! avert the sacrifice,
And cleanse thy proud, thy sullied name.

A Bachelor's Thermometer.

16. Incipient palpitations towards the young ladies.
17. Blushing and confusion in conversing with them.
18. Confidence in conversing with them, much increased.
19. Angry if treated by them as a boy.
20. Very conscious of his own charms and manliness.
21. A looking glass indispensable in his room, to admire himself.
22. Insufferable puppyism.
23. Thinks no women good enough for him.
24. Caught unawares by the snares of Cupid.
25. The connection broken off, from self-conceit on his part.
26. Conducts himself with much superiority towards her.
27. Pays his addresses to another lady, not without hope of mortifying the first.
28. Mortified and frantic at being refused.
29. Rails against the fair sex in general.
30. Morose and out of humor in all conversations on matrimony.
31. Contemplates matrimony more under the influence of interest than formerly.
32. Considers personal beauty in a wife not so indispensable as formerly.
33. Still retains a high opinion of his attractions as a husband.
34. Consequently has no idea but he may still marry a chicken.
35. Falls deeply and violently in love with one of seventeen.
36. An dernier desespoir another refusal.
37. Indulges in every kind of dissipation.
38. Shuns the best part of the female sex.
39. Suffers much remorse and mortification in so doing.
40. A fresh budding of matrimonial ideas, but no spring shoots.
41. A nice young widow perplexes him.
42. Ventures to address her with mixed sensations of love and interest.
43. Interest prevails, which causes much cautious reflection.
44. The widow jilts him, being as cautious as himself.
45. Becomes every day more averse to the fair sex.
46. Gouty and nervous symptoms begin to appear.
47. Fears what may become of him when old and infirm.
48. Thinks living alone quite irksome.
49. Resolves to have a prudent young woman as housekeeper and companion.
50. A nervous affection about him, and frequent attacks of the gout.
51. Much pleased with his new housekeeper as nurse.
52. Begins to feel some attachment to her.
53. His pride revolts at the idea of marrying her.
54. Is in great distress how to act.
55. Completely under her influence, and very miserable.
56. Many painful thoughts about parting with her.
57. She refuses to live any longer with him solo.
58. Gouty, nervous, and bilious, to excess.
59. Feels very ill, sends for her to his bedside, and intends espousing her.
60. Grows rapidly worse, has his will made in her favour, and makes his exit.

EUROPE MARRIAGES.

At London, on the 14th of June, Lieut-Colonel BELL, Deputy-Quarter-Master-General, at the Cape of Good Hope, to Lady CATHERINE HARRIS, daughter of the late Earl of MALMESBURY.

At Girvanmains, on the 11th of June, Mr. JOHN M'CALL, Glasgow, to CATHERINE, daughter of JOHN TENNANT, Esq. of Creoch,

Sketches of America.

SELECTIONS FROM THIS WORK OF AN ENGLISHMAN
CONCLUDED.

Freedom from Tax-Gatherers.

As the revenue is here drawn from the customs, the treasury affords no standard by which to judge of the internal resources of the country. The wealth as this young republic is not locked up in her sea ports, but is spread through a community to whom want and oppression are unknown. The broken fortunes of her merchants may view the splendor of her cities, but can subtract little from the aggregate of her strength, while the check that is thus given to luxury and extravagance can only produce beneficial effects on the national character. It is thought that a new mode of taxation must shortly be adopted; perhaps a well regulated tax-upon property may supersede the present system. A very slight one would suffice to defray the expenses of this economical government, and have the advantage of yielding a certain return; whereas, at present, the revenue is continually fluctuating, and always threatens to leave the government aground in the very moment of extreme exigency. The danger and utter inefficiency of the present system was fully proved in the late war; as it was not destroyed then, it will now in all probability find its own euthanasia; unless indeed Europe should correct her policy, of which I suppose there is little likelihood. It seems, however, that this sovereign people are determined to see their present system of finance die a natural death before they will have recourse to another. The Americans, it must be confessed, have some whims which seem peculiar to themselves; of these, not the least singular is an inherent innate antipathy to tax-gatherers. Our good-natured islanders will support legions of these itinerant gentlemen, and consent to surrender at their request the very coat off their backs and the bread out of their mouths; but our transatlantic brethren will not so much as part with a shred of the one or a crumb of the other. They will pay no taxes at all. What would the chancellor of the British Exchequer say to such obstinacy? How would his collectors of the revenue look around them in a country where their talents were in no request, and where even their right to existence was called in question?

Quietness of a Quaker City.

How strangely quiet is this Quaker city! I am in this cabin scarce disturbed by a sound, except the tread of two men on the deck; and yet the great market of the city, and the largest, perhaps, of any city in the states, is now holding not two hundred yards distant from this spot. We took a turn through it just now, and surely never was a crowd so orderly and quiet! I know not of the fish-women be all Quakers, but they certainly are few of them Billingsgates. And here I will observe what has struck me, not in Philadelphia only, over which the peaceable spirit of Penn may be supposed to hover, but in all the towns and cities of these republics that I have chanced to visit,—the orderly behaviour of the citizens. You not only see no riots in the streets, but no brawls; none of that wrangling, enforced by oath and fist, which some might hold as proofs of brutish ignorance, though a Windham might see in them the tongue and soul of valor. The absence of noise does not argue the absence of activity, any more than the absence of inhumanity argues that of courage. If any man doubt either position, let him visit these republics, and consider the character and habits of this people, together with their short, but interesting history.

Peculiarities of American Servants.

The native American, when he can be obtained, makes a valuable domestic: household service, as I have observed in a former letter, is not an employment that the citizens are fond of; but the very qualities which disincline them from it, make them the more trusty when engaged in it. The foreigner, however, must be careful not to rub their pride. No American will receive an insulting word. A common mode of resenting an imperious order, is to quit the house without waiting or even asking for a reckoning. The sensitiveness of the American pride is sometimes not a little curious and amusing. Some months since, we were surprised at New York by a visit from a woman who had been our domestic the year before. We had parted with her, having no further occasion for her service, and had seen her provided with another place, before we left the city. It was not without pleasure; that I recognized our old acquaintance, as she entered neatly dressed with a smiling countenance, which seemed also full of meaning. After some prefatory salutations, I began to enquire into her history since we parted. How had she liked her new situation? "They were foreigners, Madam, that I went to after leaving you." "Well, Mary."—"They had some strange ways, Madam." "The short is, Mary, that you did not like them." "Why no, Madam, I left them the next morning." "That was somewhat hasty. They must have used you very ill." They doubted my honesty, and she drew her head somewhat higher as she spoke. "Indeed!" "Yes; the lady herself flocked away the plate, and even the silver spoons." I believe I smiled as I asked, "Was that all, Mary?" "All!" A slight flush crossed her face, as she repeated the word; then,

hesitating a moment she added in a quiet tone, "I am afraid you think I behaved oddly; but I was not used to this sort of thing. The lady told me it was her practice, *Why then Madam*" said I "I think we are not assorted; I could not stay in a house where a doubt seemed to be cast on my honesty; and so I believe we had better part now." "And you did part?" "Yes, Madam, I went away directly." I was glad to learn that the pride of the honest creature was never likely to be tried again. After a few circumlocutions and awkward looks, she told me that she was married to a kind husband and an industrious man.

Tombs of the Brave at Baltimore.

You see here as in Philadelphia, the same neat houses of well made and well painted bricks; the same delicately white doors, with their shining knockers and handles, and their steps of clean white marble, and windows with their green venetian shutters. Considerable attention and expense have also been bestowed upon the public edifices, which, however, are chiefly remarkable for neatness and convenience, seldom making pretensions to architectural beauty. Some buildings of a different character are now erecting, in a style which does honor to the taste and public spirit of the community; I have heard, indeed, the citizens of Baltimore charged in this particular with undue extravagance. However this may be, we felt ourselves much indebted to them, when, heated with fatigue and want of rest, we suddenly came upon a spacious fountain, where the clean cold water gushing fresh from the spring, ran gurgling over a channelled floor of marble. In a neighbouring square, a clustered column of simple and pure architecture is raising to the memory of those who fell in the gallant defence of the city at the close of the late war; on the pedestal of the column is a black stone, on which are simply engrained the names of the dead who are interred beneath. The thoughtless military leader, and the calculating politician, might smile at this enumeration of some hundred names. We cannot better contrast the feelings of such men, than with an anecdote which recurs to me at the moment. During the war, when a body of American militia had repulsed a party of invaders, and were pursuing them to their ships, the commanding Officer suddenly called them from the pursuit. A citizen, surprised and irritated at the order, seeing the possibility of cutting off the retreat of the enemy, reproachfully observed, that ere they could gain their boats, two thirds might be dead or prisoners, "True," calmly replied the other, having first enforced the order for retreat; "we might possibly with the loss of a dozen men, have deprived the enemy of some hundreds, but what would have been the dozen?—sons, husbands, fathers, and useful citizens. And what would have been the hundreds? men fighting for hire. Which loss in the balance had weighed the heavier?"

When we read of the fall of the three hundred at Thermopylae, we feel something more than when we read of that of the legions of Varus in the wilds of Germany; and I own that I looked with deeper interest upon this memorial to a few private citizens, who fell in the defence of their domestic hearths, and whose corpses were washed by the tears of bereaved mothers, widows, and orphans, than I ever did upon the proudest monument erected to the thousands sacrificed to kingly ambition. And I doubt if, in this sentiment, I am peculiar; I doubt, I mean, if the costly monuments that adorn the empires of Europe, are regarded with the same deep and lasting interest by their people, as is this simple record by the citizens of America's republic. There, too often, the glory is monopolized, and the honor awarded to the individual whose personal ambition, or whose talent, submitted to the ambition of a master, leads unnumbered and unknown thousands to the field of slaughter; and their places on his single brow the laurels steeped in the sweat and blood of the unheeded myriads, dead and dying, who surround him. And is it to be believed that, when the first mad frenzy of the multitude has subsided, they will see in the proud trophies, marked with the name of a Napoleon or a Wellington, much to rouse their sympathy or even their pride? The hero who lives in the hearts of a people, is not he who has achieved the most numerous and imposing conquests, who has wrought the most daring exploits, and seen the most costly memorials raised to his name; it is he who has struggled for the existence or defence of his country, whose patience and energy were exerted, not so much to destroy its foes as to shield its sons; he it is, whose cause being that of his nation, so also is his dignity and his fame. The chariots of the Caesars were followed by acclaiming multitudes, and their achievements live in the annals of their empire, but their names lived not in the hearts of the Romans, as did those of the Camillus and the Fabius, whose sword and whose shield were the saviours of the infant republic. We have seen the eagles of Napoleon overthrown, and have heard his name die on the lips of his people; but the memorials of Washington are beyond the reach of fortunas of time: seated in the hearts of America's citizens, their number increases with every child that is born to the republic, and will be lasting as the nation whose independence he assisted to establish; and thus in like manner, is it that this simple commemoration of a few private individuals excites more interest in the mind of the spectator than the proudest trophies raised to unknown thousands, who fell, they knew not wherefore, in a foreign land.

It would be difficult to imagine a more interesting scene than was here exhibited during the engagement which this monument is raised

to commemorate. If the burning of Washington excited the whole continent, it more peculiarly called forth the spirit, as well as the fears of Baltimore, from whose heights was distinctly descried the glow diffused through the atmosphere by the flames of the capital. An instantaneous attack was apprehended; but of the short interval which unexpectedly elapsed before the enemy ascended the Chesapeake, not a moment was lost. The whole population of Baltimore labored on the entrenchments, and in throwing up fortifications; troops of volunteers poured in from the neighbouring states of Pennsylvania and Virginia; and the most distinguished citizens of Maryland were found in the ranks of the battalions, collected round the city. The city itself, on the day and night of the engagement, was peopled only by women and infants. Every man, from the decrepid veteran to the boy whose arm could scarcely steady the musket, was without the walls, in the character of a soldier. The death of General Ross is ascribed to a beardless youth, for whose hand the rifle which he pointed with unerring certainty was almost too heavy. War in this country assumes a character so different from that which it wears in Europe, that it is impossible to regard it with the same feelings. Who can consider without interest an army of citizens just summoned from their domestic hearths? the farmer, the lawyer, the merchant, the statesman, the private gentleman, converted into soldiers at the threshold of their own habitations for the defence of all that is most dear to men. Conceive, too, the position of this deserted city; the hearts which here beat with agony during the day and night that the cannon roared in the very harbor, each thunder of which seemed to sound the knell of a father and a husband. It was an affecting scene, as described by those who witnessed it, when the enemy withdrew, and the citizens returned to their anxious homes, bearing with them the silent few whose hearts were now cold amid the impatience and joy that surrounded them. The soldier falls, unregarded on a foreign soil, his remains left, perhaps, to the bleaching elements, or thrown into a hasty grave by his weary and reckless comrades, or it may be by the very strangers whose lands he has invaded, whose laws he has trampled on, and whose brethren he has slain. Not so the citizen who falls on his native soil, amid his friends and relatives, by the hand of the invader raised against his country and himself. Here borne on the shoulders of his brethren, the father was brought to the house of his children, the son to that of his parent; the tears of agony bedewed the corpse, the hand of affection straitened the limbs, and performed the last duties to the dead; and when at length the sacred dust was consigned to its element, the assembled citizens formed the long line of the funeral procession, moving through silent streets, where the tumult of joy was hushed into the deep solemnity of mourning.

Extremes of American Climate.

This is a climate of extremes; you are here always in heat or frost. The former you know I never object to, and as I equally dislike the latter, I should perhaps be an unfair reporter of both. The summer is glorious; the resplendent sun "shining on, shining on," for days and weeks successively; an air so pure, so light, and to me so genial, that I wake as it were to a new existence. I have seen those around me, however, often drooping beneath fervors which have given me life. By the month of August, the pale cheeks and slow movements of the American women, and even occasionally of the men, seem to demand the invigorating breezes of the Siberian winter to brace the nerves and quicken the current of the blood. The severe cold which succeeds to this extreme of heat, appears to have this effect, and seldom to produce, excepting upon such as may be affected with constitutional weakness of the lungs, any effect that is not decidedly beneficial. Most people will pronounce the autumn to be the pride of the American year. It is, indeed, fraught with beauty of all the senses; the brilliant hues then assumed by nature, from the dwarf sumac with his berries and leaves of vivid crimson, up to the towering trees of the forest, twisting their branches in extreme and whimsical contrasts of gold, red, green, orange, russet, through all their varieties of shade; the orchards too then laden with treasure; and the fields heavy with the ripened maize, the skies bright with all the summer's splendour, yet tempered with refreshing breezes, the sun sinking to rest in crimsons, whose depth and warmth of hue the painter would not dare to imitate. This glorious season is, however, not the most wholesome, especially in the unventilated districts, as you know from my last year's letters.

The winter, those whom it likes, may like it. The season has its beauty and its pleasures, sparkling skies shining down upon sparkling snows, over which the light skis, peopled with the young and the gay, bound along to the chime of bells which the horses seem to bear well pleased. In country and city, this is the time of amusement; the young people will run twenty miles through the biting air, to the house of a friend; where all in a moment is set a-stir; carpets up, music playing, and youths and maidens laughing and mingling in the merry dance, the happiest creatures beneath the moon. Is it the bright climate, or the liberty that reigns every where, or is it the absence of poverty and the equal absence of extreme wealth, or is it all these things together that make this people so cheerful and gay-hearted? whatever be the cause, I'll befall the callous heart, that could see their happiness without sympathy, though it should be unable to share it.

The spring; there is properly no spring; there is a short struggle between winter and summer; who sometimes fight for the mastery with a good deal of obstinacy. We have lately seen a fierce combat between these two great sovereigns of the year. In the latter days of March, summer suddenly alighted on the snows in the full flush of July heat, every window and door were flung open to welcome the stranger, and the trees were just bursting into leaf, when angry winter returned to the field, and poured down one of the most singular showers of sleet I ever witnessed. The water, freezing as it fell, cased every branch and twig in chrysalis of an inch thick, so transparent that each bud appeared distinctly through it; in some places, large trees gave way beneath the unusual burden, their heads absolutely touching the ground, until their trunks snapped in twain. Fortunately, there was no wind, or the devastation would have been dreadful; it has been cruel enough as it is, boughs and branches every were strewn the ground, and stems shattered as if by lightning.

Visit to the Congress at Washington.

Those who, in visiting Washington, expect to find a city, will be somewhat surprised when they first enter its precincts, and look round, in vain for the appearance of a house.

The plan marked out for this metropolis of the empire, is gigantic and the public buildings, whether in progress or design, bear all the stamp of grandeur. How many centuries shall pass away ere the clusters of little villages, now scattered over this plain, shall assume the form and magnificence of an imperial city? Where the heart to form a prayer for this republic, would it not be that the term of her youth might be long protracted? Which of her patriots can anticipate, without anxiety, the period when the road to the senate house shall lead through streets adorned with temples and palaces? and when the rulers of the republic, who now take their way on foot to the council chamber, in the fresh hour of morning, shall roll in chariots at mid-noon, or perhaps mid-night, through a sumptuous metropolis, rich in arts and bankrupt in virtue? Is such to be the destiny of this new-born empire? Heaven avert it! and I do more than hope that it is to be averted. At all events, you and I, my dear friend, shall long have been in our graves, ere the flush of youth and pride of liberty can forsake this favored democracy.

I envy not the man who can enter without emotion the noble, though still unfinished structure of the American capitol. Never shall I forget the feelings with which I first looked down from the gallery of the hall upon the assembled representatives of a free and sovereign nation. Is there, in the whole range of this peopled earth, a sight more sublime? When the English friends who accompanied us, first visited the Congress, some months since, the words that struck their ear, as they entered the gallery, formed part of the prayer with which the business of the day opens: "*May the rod of tyranny be broken in every nation of the earth!*" Mrs., her husband told me, burst into tears. Were I curious to try the soul of a European, I should wish to see him enter the house of the American congress. I defy a native of that continent who has a soul, not to find it at that moment. Yes, my dear friend, while this edifice stands, liberty has an anchorage from which the congress of European autocrats cannot unmoor her. Truly I am grateful to this nation; the study of their history and institutions, and the consideration of the peace and happiness which they enjoy, has thawed my heart, and filled it with hopes which I had not thought it could know again. After all, we are fortunately constituted: when we cease to feel for ourselves, we can better feel for others, and the pleasure of sympathy, if it be not as intense, is perhaps more pure than that of enjoyment.

We of course considered with much interest some of the more distinguished members, with whom we were previously only acquainted by report, or the public prints, and waited with some curiosity until they should take their turn in the debate. It happened to be one of peculiar animation, and occupied the house for ten successive days: the subject was supplied by the proposed alterations in the tariff, and what may seem singular, they found not a single opposer from the state, or even the city of New York; the opposition to the bill seemed to proceed entirely from the southern planters, and some members from New England: the representatives from the central and western states were united to a man in flouting poor fallen commerce, whom they seemed to consider as no better than a professional gambler, who had fleeced the citizens of their morals as well as their money. Indeed, it would seem that men can seldom lose the one without the other; and perhaps it is little surprising, that the more ardent of this republican race should rejoice in the fall of a deity who, of late years, has reclined one arm on Plutus and the other on bankruptcy; her ruin, however, seems sufficiently complete, without any fulminations from the capitol. It is possible, however, that the proposed duties may act as a very fair tax upon wealth; for as the more homely and essential manufactures can now stand their ground in the face of those introduced from abroad, the increase of the customs are chiefly calculated to raise the price of luxuries. I must say, that I for one should not be sorry to see foreign silks give place to home-spun cottons in the wardrobes of the young women of the Atlantic cities; perhaps, when they are sold half a dollar a yard dearer, this change in the fashions may be effected.

The bill was introduced by Mr. Baldwin, of Pennsylvania, a man of vigorous intellect, with a rough, but energetic delivery. The number of able speakers exceeded my expectations, though I had been prepared to find it considerable: they struck me as generally remarkable for close, and lucid reasoning, and a plain, but gentlemanly and impressive diction. When Mr. Clay rose, I believe that some apprehension was mingled with our curiosity; for who has not learned from experience, that when expectation is much raised, it is usually disappointed? The first words uttered by the Speaker of the House satisfied us that no defect of manner was to break the charm of his eloquence. This distinguished statesman has, for many successive years, been called to preside in the House by an almost unanimous vote; and, it is said, that no individual ever exercised in it a more powerful influence. He seems indeed, to unite all the qualities essential to an orator; animation, energy, high moral feeling, ardent patriotism, a sublime love of liberty, a rapid flow of ideas and of language, a happy vein of irony, an action at once vehement and dignified, and a voice, full, sonorous, distinct, and flexible; exquisitely adapted to all the varieties of passion or argument; without exception the most masterly voice that I ever remember to have heard. It filled the large and magnificent hall without any apparent effort on the part of the orator. In conversation, he is no less eloquent than in debate; and no sooner does he kindle with his subject, than his voice and action betray the orator of the hall; yet so unprepared is his language, that even in a drawing room, the orator never appears misplaced. From the perusal of his speeches, you may have formed some idea of the ardor of feeling and expression which characterise this statesman; but you must have heard one delivered to understand the effect in the national senate.

The influence of a masterly orator in the American Congress would somewhat surprise the invulnerable and immoveable majorities of the British House of Commons. The check to this influence remains with the nation, whose wishes, upon important questions, must, of course, more or less affect the decision of their representatives. But the voice of the sovereign people is not altogether absolute, and by no means undisputed. If the people be proud, so also are their agents in congress; and few are found who will passively surrender their right of judgment to their employers. Besides, the probability is, that their employers will often differ among themselves; a circumstance which must leave their agents pretty much to the direction of their own reason. The power of an orator, therefore, if checked, is not destroyed by the responsibility of the members, as the sway exercised by the great western statesman appears sufficiently to demonstrate.

Mr. Clay has been understood to head a powerful opposition to some measures of the existing executive; an opposition chiefly, if not exclusively, directed against the policy pursued towards the rising democracies of the southern continent. It has been the aim of this ardent statesman to extort a public acknowledgment of the independence and national existence of these infant republics during their struggle for liberty. The thunders of his eloquence never sounded with more sublimity than on this occasion; and could their influence have extended to the senate, might have triumphed over the cold neutrality so obstinately preserved by the American government. Perhaps the policy pursued by the government has been the most wise, certainly the most prudent; but it is difficult not to feel with the orator, who, spinning all calculations of interest or state policy, draws his arguments from the lips of generosity and liberty. It may be doubted, whether the neutrality assumed by the Government, has not in reality been iniquitous, as well by the supplies furnished to the patriots from some of the wealthy sea-ports, as by the friendly intercourse carried on privately between the first official characters of Washington and Angostura. But the idea may well suggest itself to an American, that the vigorous navy of the republic could never have been more honorably employed, than in asserting the liberties of the southern continent; and the unceasing opportunity of the illustrious speaker of the house to extort an open avowal of friendship for the patriots must command the admiration of every generous mind.*

Leaving the city to make a little excursion in Virginia, we missed the speeches of several distinguished members. We returned, however, to attend the close of the debate, which afforded us the opportunity of hearing Mr. Lowndes of Carolina. The close and deductive reasoning of this gentleman forms a striking contrast to the fervid oratory of Mr. Clay. They were opposed in the debate, and each possessed a manner most appropriate to his argument. Mr. Lowndes is singularly correct in his selection of language and turn of the phrase; yet the syllables flow from his lips in an uninterrupted stream; the best word always falling into the right place, not merely without effort, but seemingly without the consciousness of the speaker.

We were surprised at the readiness with which even the youngest members took their share in the discussion. The error of these in-

* At the close of the session, in 1820, Mr. Clay had the satisfaction of seeing his favourite measure carried through both houses; and accredited ministers appointed to the republics of Colombia and Buenos Ayres.

deed, seems that of speaking to much: to which may be added another—that of coining new words when old ones do not occur to them. The patience of the house with the more inexperienced or less gifted speakers is truly admirable; and, I must observe, that, in spite of some inelegance and much prolixity, they appear seldom unworthy of attention: since sound reasoning; liberal philosophy, and generous feeling, may generally be discovered through the mass of awkward words supplied by their vehemence.

I have sometimes amused myself in the hall, by imagining how one of the marshalled troops of the British minister would look upon an assembly whose members, until the actual counting of the votes, are often ignorant of the issue of the most important questions. At one time, a member told me he expected the bill to be thrown out; a few hours afterwards, his hopes were, that it would be carried; again he despaired, again he hoped, and at last listened to the *ayes* and *noes* with as much incertitude as myself. During the division, the curiosity of the assembly seemed wrought to the highest pitch of impatience; the seats were abandoned, and a humming and agitated crowd pressed round the chair, threatening with suffocation both the clerk and the speaker. The sonorous voice of the latter, however, quelled the tempest instantaneously, and produced a silence so profound, that the drop of a pin might have been heard upon the floor. Mr. Clay afterwards told me, that since he had presided in the house, he had never but once seen it equally agitated.

The senate being occupied in ordinary business, we had no opportunity of judging of its oratory, but being politely admitted on the floor, we admired the elegance of the chamber, and made ourselves acquainted with the persons of the senators, and the proceedings of the house. The debates of the chamber, as I am informed by some of its members, are conducted with less popular vehemence than those of the hall. I know not if it be the more advanced age of the senators, or the small size of the assembly, which imparts to the deliberations their character of senatorial gravity. The age fixed by law for a member of the senate is thirty five years; and though one or two gentlemen in the chamber seem to have numbered little more than the lustre demanded, the majority of the assembly have the air of veteran statesmen, some of whom have occupied a seat in the house from its first organization.*

I perfectly acknowledge the influence of that moral sublime, so candidly admitted by my friend, when first addressed by the Presidency of the United States. I meant to rise, or, rather, I afterwards felt that I ought to have risen; but when suddenly introduced to me by a senator, and that with the simple air of a private gentleman, and the calmness of a sage, he opened conversation, my recollection for a moment left me, and I fixed my eyes upon the venerable character before me with a silent emotion which he, quietly continuing his discourse, seemed unconscious of having excited, and thus relieved me from the awkwardness of framing an apology for my absence.

Colonel Monroe enjoys the felicity of having witnessed at his election the union of all parties, and of conciliating, during his administration, the esteem and confidence of the whole American nation. His illustrious predecessors having been placed in active political opposition to a strong, and once a ruling party, of which they effected the overthrow and destruction, were exposed throughout their public career to the enmity of a discomfited minority; an enmity which, though their candor knew how to forgive, their virtues and high-minded forbearance were unable wholly to appease. The existing president came into office at a moment of all others the most fortunate; when the republic had just shaken hands with her foreign and internal enemies; and it had been difficult to find a statesman more fitted, by the benevolence of his character and mild urbanity of his manners, to cement the civil concord, than he who was elected.†

* The hall of the representatives also contain some grey-haired veterans. One Gentleman was pointed out to me who had sat in the continental congress, and been regularly returned by his fellow citizens until the present day.

† I feel tempted to quote a passage from the letter of an American friend; who after some observations upon the happy spirit of union pervading the United States subjoins, "All united in approving of Monroe's mild and prudent guidance. When he lately travelled through our vast extent of country, the marks of respect which he received from all parties and classes, must have been grateful to his heart. When he passed through our little town (and the same feeling prevailed every where) each person was anxious to speak to the good president. The old men, who, like himself, had served in the revolutionary war, took pains to make themselves known to him as old soldiers. To them, he showed peculiar attention, and seemed to speak with pleasure, and even emotion, of the battles they had fought, and the anxieties they had felt in common. His arrival having been expected, many little preparations had been made; those who had gardens had carefully preserved their finest fruit. But these things will read idly in Europe. It is perhaps, only to those who have been trained up in a republic, that such simple sacrifices of the heart speak more than wealth can buy, or power command."

Would it not mortify some European diplomatists to find the mighty engine of government exposed to every eye as it is here, legislating without mystery, and commanding respect by their talents and character, and the name of their office? How would the courtiers of C^{ar}litⁿ H^{er} look upon the chief magistrate of a country who stands only as a man among men; who walks forth without attendants, lives without state, greets his fellow citizens with open hand as his companions and equals; seeks his relaxation from the labors of the cabinet at the domestic hearth; snatches a moment from the hurry of public affairs to superintend the business of his farm, and defrays all the expenses of his high office with a stipend of 6000*l.* a year! or how would they regard a secretary of state, who with an income of little more than £1000 toils from sun rise to sunset, conspicuous only among his fellow citizens for abilities and science, and a modesty of character and simplicity of manners and habits which might lead the fancy to recur to the early sages of Sparta or Rome.

But I shall weary you with my commentaries. Had you studied with me the history and character of the American republic; did you see in her so many seeds of excellence, so bright a dawning of national glory, so fair a promise of a brilliant meridian day, as your friend imagines that she can discern, you would share all that regret, impatience, and anxiety, with which she regards every stain that rests upon her morals, every danger that threatens her peace. An awful responsibility has devolved on the American nation; the liberties of mankind are entrusted to their guardianship, the honor of is identified with the honor of their republic: the agents of tyranny are active in one hemisphere; may the children of liberty be equally active in the other.

Interesting and Affecting Narrative.

Colonel Eugee is a native of South Carolina, and the member of a family remarkable (so far at least as my acquaintance with it extends) for ardour of character and distinguished talents. He passed to London in his youth to complete his medical studies, and was thus engaged when the news reached him of the seizure and imprisonment of General La Fayette, whom he had learned from his infancy to respect as the companion in arms of his father, and the champion of his country's liberties. He instantly conceived the project of devoting his time, and, if it should be necessary, his life, to effect the rescue of the illustrious captive. Having digested his scheme, and finding that a co-adjutor would be necessary, he took into his confidence a young German, a companion of his studies, and embarked with him for Holland. The story of the attempted rescue, as commonly told, is pretty accurate; the best that I remember to have seen, was in a number of the Annual Register. I suppose you are acquainted with the incidents which defeated the scheme, and gave back the rescued La Fayette to his prison, and made his generous deliverer also an inhabitant of the gloomy dungeons of Olmutz. The sufferings of the young American, after the failure of the attempt, were cruelly severe; alone, in a dank and stony cell, apprehensive for the safety, even for the life of La Fayette, uncertain as to the fate of his friend; now cursing his own rashness, which had perhaps doubled the sufferings of him he came to rescue, and now the untoward chances which had defeated his attempt when so near success;—this fever of the spirit soon fell on the blood, and, for three days, delirium rendered him insensible to the horrors of his dungeon. Without assistance of any kind that he can recollect, how the fever left him, he knows not; the damps and confinement ill forwarded the recovery of his strength; stretched on the stones, he sought to divert his mind by laying plans for his future life, if his prison doors should ever be opened, but for his corpse. What is singular he has followed out the mode of life he then amused himself with scheming.

The first human sound that reached him was the cry of a child (for the keeper who supplied him with bread and water, made neither query nor reply.) "A child! then there must be a woman, and where there is a woman, there may be compassion." So saying, he crawled towards the wall, at the top of which was the grate that admitted light, air, and all the inclemencies of the seasons; often he listened, watched, and called, till at last a woman's face was stooped towards the grate; he tried French, which fortunately she could reply to. "You are a mother;" such was the manner of his address, to remove her scruples; "I have a mother, for her sake have pity on her son!" After a good deal of pathetic intreaty, she promised to bring him back an answer to his enquiries, and to procure for him a German grammar. He learned that his friend was in a dungeon in the same fortress, and that La Fayette was in tolerable health, but in stricter confinement than ever. The grammar was squeezed through the bars, another book was afterwards procured, and thus he acquired a tolerable knowledge of German. After some time, he told his visitor, that his grammar had afforded him so much amusement, that if she could discover the grate of his friend's prison, he wished she would convey it to him. Having in vain tried to make intelligible marks upon the paper, he made some with a piece of mortar, scraped from the wall, upon a black silk handkerchief that he took from his neck, and in which he folded the grammar; this with a good deal of trouble, was squeezed again through the bars, and in a few days was returned, some words in English in reply having been scraped by his friend upon the cover, satisfy-

ing Eugee as to his health. The grammar was his only amusement through the remaining months of his imprisonment, in all eight. The representations of Washington procured his release, after a trial where he pleaded his own cause in French: it was short, and simply, but eloquently stated, that he and his friend had no accomplices, and no motives but those supplied by their own enthusiasm; that he had not sought to rescue a state-prisoner, but the friend of his father, of his country, and of mankind; to procure whose release, he would then willingly return to his dungeon, and to save whose life, he would joyfully give his own. Having concluded, the Judge (whose German title I forget,) ordered him to leave the place within so many hours, and to be out of Germany within so many days; and then, leaving his seat, and approaching him, he said, "Young man, you are chargeable with singular rashness, but I tell you, that, had I to search the world for a friend, from what I have heard this day, I would seek him in America."

I may mention that the young prisoner came from his dungeon almost entirely bald, and that though the strength of his constitution soon removed all the other effects of his unwholesome confinement, he never recovered his hair. This, contrasted with the youth and animation of his countenance, gave him for many years a very singular appearance. Returning to his country, misfortune seemed to follow him; entering the house of his brother, a bow window from the upper story fell on his head; for thirteen days he lay insensible, attended by his brother with agonised affection. What struck me as a fine instance of greatness of mind, when the surgeon, perceiving the skull to be injured, proposed trepanning, which he thought might save life, though without the hope of preserving the reason, "No," said his brother, "never shall he live to be as different from what he was. I know his soul, and choose for him in preferring death." Here paid his cares, however, by a perfect recovery, when his brother, who was possessed of a large property, intreated him to share his fortune; this, however, he strenuously refused, and settled in Charlestown as a physician. Some time afterwards, he became attached to a young woman of a respectable family in that city. Though rising into eminence in his profession, his income was as yet small, and she had nothing. In this state of things, he determined not to venture on marriage, until his increasing practice should enable him to support a family. These circumstances coming to the knowledge of his brother, he instantly bestowed a fortune on the young woman; and an obligation, thus delicately conferred, could not be objected to by her lover. They married, and Colonel Eugee then determined to carry into effect the dreams which had amused his prison. He took his wife to a farm beyond the mountains, where he settled, and was soon the father of a fine boy. The child, when two years old, sickened, and his knowledge of physic satisfied him that he could not recover; he reasoned like a philosopher with the doating mother, prepared her by degrees for her loss, represented the duty she owed to him, which should strengthen her to struggle with her grief, and submit to an irremediable evil. She listened, and had sufficient strength of mind to feel the weight of his words. She herself wrote the news of her loss to her father. "My husband has exhorted me to bear it as became your daughter and his wife, and he has imparted strength to me to do so; but, oh! what calamity is there for which his affection ought not to console me!" They were afterwards more fortunate parents. Colonel Eugee has been the tutor of his children, who obey his words as the young Spartans those of Lycurgus. Trained to hardiness and independence, inspired by their father with sentiments of patriotism, and clad in garments woven by their own domestics, they exhibit in their manners and character, that simplicity and ardor which forms the true characteristics of the sons and daughters of a republic. Nor is it only when excited by feelings of peculiar enthusiasm, or when called upon to perform the duties of a husband, a father, and a citizen, that this distinguished individual has evinced the beauty of his character. He had an only sister, who, some years after his marriage, fell into a pitiable state of health; change of air and travelling were recommended as the last remedies: his brother found it impossible to move at the time, and there was no other friend or relative in whom could be devolved the care of the invalid. Colonel Eugee left his farm, came to Charleston, deposited his wife and infant children with his father-in-law, became the travelling companion and physician of his sister, and nearly a year after brought her back in a state of recovery, joined his family, and returned to his estate.

During the war, when a descent of the enemy was expected on some of the great cities of the south, and then on Savannah rather than New Orleans, Colonel Eugee repaired to the former. Assembling his children around him in the presence of their mother, he explained the duty which called him from them. "My country and your country calls me to its defence, I go with a willing heart, commending you and your mother to it and to heaven. Let me see that you, on your side, yield your father with willing hearts. Now embrace me, all of you, without a tear." He mounted his horse, and not a murmur was heard; even the youngest tried to smile as their beloved parent rode away; another proudly brushed the tear from his eye, and wished that he was old enough to defend his country. Are you not with the old Romans? *

ASIATIC DEPARTMENT.

—21—

Public Concert.

Having attended the Concert of Monday Evening, in preference to the Play on the same night, we are enabled to speak with some confidence as to the impressions it left on our own minds; and this is all that we ever pretend to describe, and all we imagine that the reader can in general require to know: since those who attended for themselves can need no information on the subject, and all that can be desired by those who did not, is an honest report of the merits and defects from some one who was present. We should have preferred a Communication of this sort from some Correspondent, as we are supposed to be so unjust in our own views, but not having been so favored, we must state briefly what we thought ourselves.

To follow the natural order of our impressions, we shall first observe that the Concert was very thinly attended, there being not more than half the number of persons that attended the former Concerts of Mr. and Mrs. Lacy, in 1819 and 1820, or those of Mr. Linton and Mr. Scheidlenberger in 1821; and that it was impossible to look round the room without remarking the absence of many families, as well as gentlemen, who are usually seen at all the places of really popular Entertainment.

Next—The Orchestra, though ornamented with a very small Organ, which was ingeniously enlarged in appearance by certain painted cloths, banners, &c. &c. was deficient in instrumental force, both numerically and efficiently considered. The consequence was, that the Overture to the Messiah, from Handel, was performed in a manner wholly unworthy the fame of that venerated Master. We state this without disparagement of the talents of the individuals who bore any share in the performance; but as a fact which those among the audience who have ever heard Handel's Messiah in England must know to be incontrovertible. There are various Pieces of Music adapted for weak bands, and there are Chamber Overtures in 8 parts, with Sestetts, Quintetts, and Quartetts, for which no more Instruments are necessary than the number indicated by the name;—but Handel's Overture to the Messiah is not of that description;—nor could the Orchestra of Monday Evening, even if every instrument had been in the hands of a master, which we know was not the case, because we happen to be acquainted with their respective powers, be expected to do justice to the sublimity and majesty of Handel's Overtures, any more than twenty of the finest Soprano and Treble voices in Italy could do justice to his awful and imposing Chorusses.

The Recitative "Comfort ye, comfort ye my people"—and the Song "Every valley shall be exalted"—by Mr. Schmidt, were among the most splendid efforts of the voice that we have ever heard in India. The Instrumental Accompaniment was also sufficiently powerful, chaste, correct, and beautiful. We would not willingly risk the imputation of inordinate eulogy, any more than we would voluntarily incur the charge of undue censure, a departure from truth in either case, being, as we conceive at least, equally dishonest; but we must say that Mr. Schmidt's voice has a fullness, a richness, and a steadiness of tone, which entitles it to be called magnificent; while the wonderful smoothness of his *crescendo* and the vast distance between the scarcely breathing *pianissimo* and the full volume of his *sostendo*, give a powerful charm to his singing; and if his science and his taste, of which it requires more trials than one to judge, be commensurate with his voice, he bids fair to become highly popular.

The Recitative "Thus saith the Lord of Hosts." by Mr. Lacy, was executed in his best manner, and we think quite as highly of his fine bass voice as we ever did.

Mrs. Lacy's powers do not appear diminished either, tho' her voice cannot of course be expected to retain exactly the same sweetness and perfection of tone on all occasions. Her talents and her taste are still in full perfection, and it is impossible, we think, to hear her sing either in the solemn and heavenly strains of Handel, and particularly the "Angels ever bright and fair," or in the gayer and lighter airs of Puccini, and the simple and

pathetic Ballads of Stevenson, without feeling that there is something divine in Music, calculated at once to soothe the passions and to elevate the soul. If, among the mere accomplishments of life, there be any one, the study of which is more calculated than another to soften down the asperities of human infirmity, to swallow up selfishness in more expanded feelings, and to purify the heart of man, it would seem at least to be Music; and it is a matter of astonishment as well as regret that it should ever have the very opposite effect to that which it would appear at least to be so eminently calculated to produce.

Mr. Scheidlenberger's Violin Solo was performed with great accuracy, and appeared generally to please; but the Piece had nothing particularly to recommend it. Of his skill on this Instrument, none who has ever heard him can doubt; but we have enjoyed a hundred of his *morceaux* in private parties with more zest than this Rondo à la Russe; not because this was played in an inferior manner, for there is nothing that he touches that he does not execute well, but because the Pieces themselves were better suited to the high range of his powers, and especially to his deep expression of the sentiment of Music; and moreover, that they were far more beautiful.

Mr. Lacy's Song of "Honor and Arms," Mrs. Lacy's Recitative and Air which followed it, and the Trio of Handel which closed the First Act, were all heard with evident pleasure, and followed by deserved applause.

Mozart's Overture to *Così fan tutte* shared a somewhat better fate than Handel's Overture to the Messiah, but it was still weak, vacant, and imperfect, and from the same cause. It was said by one angry Disputant in the Papers, that *Zauberflöte* had been so well performed at the First Concert, that it was to be repeated at the Second. If this was ever intended (which we may well doubt) it was very wise to alter so precipitate a determination, both on account of the charm of variety as well as perfection. The Overture to *Zauberflöte* is infinitely more difficult than that to *Così fan tutte*, and requires both a more perfect and a fuller band. We were required to believe on the evidence of others that *Zauberflöte* was never so well played in India, as by this scanty and meagre Orchestra; we can now state that *Così fan tutte*, which is far easier, was never so weakly and inefficiently performed in any Concert that we have heard in India as it was on Monday night. Those who think differently may of course enjoy their opinion;—we are content to state that this is ours.

The Duett between Mrs. Lacy and Mr. Schmidt "Oh! Maiden Fair" was extremely beautiful; and Mr. Lacy's "Sapling Oak" as perfect as could be desired. It was loudly and deservedly encouraged; and sang the second time with as much energy, vigour, and expression as on the first.

The German Song of Mr. Schmidt, which was mentioned as a Solo, to be accompanied on the Guitar, led us to expect a display of some extraordinary skill on that Instrument, as we had been also told by the admirers of the unequalled performance of *Zauberflöte*, that the Guitar in Mr. Schmidt's hands was like the Violin in Mr. Scheidlenberger's, and there seems to be just as much accuracy in the one assertion as in the other. When persons, however, write on subjects of which they are wholly ignorant, such mistakes are not to be wondered at. We do not quarrel with them for falling into errors; but we have a right to complain of their being angry with us, because we will not heedlessly run into the same pit into which they had themselves blindly fallen. The German Song was beautifully sung, and gave us the finest opportunity of again and again admiring Mr. Schmidt's splendid voice; but the Accompaniment on the Guitar, was a simple *arpeggio*, which any person might perform after a month's study. Yet his Singing was not the less excellent on that account, and indeed it confirmed all our previous admiration. The Song was sung in the German language, and might have been so printed with advantage, as well as the Italian Songs are; for the English words in the Book were of no use, as they did not help the Auditor to follow the Singer; nay, they were worse than useless, as being wretched poetry and ware

sense. It is said to have been "translated expressly for these Concerts" which may be some excuse for the hurry with which it must have been done; though being wholly unnecessary, it appears to us but lost labour. The following portions of this composition may suffice:

O'er Clara—my soul's sole delight—
But twenty blooming summers flew
And she surpassed in beauty bright
The virgin that Raphael drew.
What poet then could paint my bliss!
I dar'd a kiss—she only smil'd—
And from her in that pure caress,
The tender words of love I wil'd.
Don Pedro came to ask her hand,
The cunning Lord of rich domains;
She said, in vain is thy demand
Fernando in my bosom reigns.

The Flute Concerto was too long, too harsh, and too difficult. The Instruments were not in tune, and tho' the Flute Performer has evidently great execution, yet this is but an inadequate compensation for the want of tune, time, and taste. As contrasted with the Flute of Mr. Delmar, it was very inferior in the power of giving pleasure, and this is the end and aim even of difficulty. When it ceases to create either surprise or admiration, and to afford pleasure through these channels, one is always tempted to repeat the wish of Johnson or Swift (we forget which), who on being told as an apology for an unpleasing performance that it was very difficult, exclaimed "I wish it were so difficult as to be impossible."

The Duo Buffo of Pucitta, was supereminently beautiful; and notwithstanding our high admiration of Mrs. Lacy's Ballads and Mr. Lacy's Songs, we are still of opinion that Italian Music is their line; Duos their most successful efforts in that line; and Buffos their forte. There has been a great outcry against the predominance of Italian Music instead of English, by those who forget that what is good in English Music is chiefly borrowed from the Italian School. We should like to hear more rather than less of Italian Music; and the nearer that Bishop and Sir John Stevenson can approach to Cimerosa and Rossini, the more we should admire them.—Even the "Rose bud of Summer" which

—came o'er the ear like the sweet South
"That breathes upon a bank of violets,
"Stealing, and giving odour,"

did not change our opinion; though nothing could be more grateful to the sense or feeling than the chaste simplicity and tenderness of expression with which this Ballad was sung.

The Terzetto, "Che vi par Dorina bella," closed the Concert; and the union of the Three Voices of Mr. and Mrs. Lacy and Mr. Schmidt was rich and agreeable in the extreme.

All that was wanting indeed to make the Entertainment as perfect a one as we ought to have and might have in India, was the presence and aid of the Lintons, the Delmars, and about 12 or 14 Amateur Performers, who, if these were all united, would add their strength, tho' without such general union they do right we think in withholding it. If the Society would only follow the example of the Amateurs, we should have the strongest Vocal and Instrumental Force perhaps that India has ever seen; for there are at present more and better Musical materials in Calcutta than at any former period; but they are so disjointed, and out of tune, that they might almost be as well elsewhere, as here, unless they can be brought to act really and truly in Concert.

Madras, Dec. 18, 1821.—Although the season has arrived when Ships usually resort to our Port, we are unable at present to announce any arrivals. The Ships COMMODORE HAYES, CAMBRIDGE, and FORBES, and the Brig HASTINGS are among the first that may be looked for from Calcutta. The two former commenced dropping down the river on the 30th ultimo, and the two latter sailed out from Saugor on the same day. The former will probably be the first vessel despatched from this Port for Europe.

The Flag Staff in the Fort was re-hoisted on Saturday last to indicate the period when the boisterous Season is considered to have passed over. The weather for the last month has been much too fine for the Season, for till within the last two days scarcely a drop of rain has fallen in that interval; and at present appearances do not indicate any considerable fall, but the new moon on Monday next may bring a change.

Reports reached the Presidency on Saturday of the Ship FLORA having been spoken at Sea in Lat. 7° 21" North and Long. 91° 0' East in great distress. It appears she had encountered a most tremendous gale of wind, in which she suffered so severely that it was necessary to throw overboard the greater part of her cargo to keep her from sinking, and that she had been compelled to bear up for Penang.

Madras, December 19, 1821.—We stop the Press to announce the arrival in the Roads late yesterday evening of the Ship COMMODORE HAYES, Capt. J. M. Ardlie, from Calcutta the 13th instant.

Passengers.—For England, Mrs. Macan; Miss Mouat; Miss Smith;—Lieut. Macan; Lieut. Pryer;—Children, Miss Macan; Masters Francis, Frederick, Alfred and Henry Mouat.—For Madras, Rev. Mr. Jefferson; Mr. Viveash; Mr. Wallace; Mr. Borradaile; Mr. C. Clarke; Mr. Jay; Mr. Mortimer; Mr. Canter.

Drivers on the Course.

SIR, To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

Will you have the kindness to insert this Letter, although it is an attack on a certain portion of the public, and consequently on some of your readers.

Should any of them be conscience-struck by the remark contained therein, I am sure they will have the good taste to rectify their error for the future. The abuse I complain of, is the custom that has lately crept in, of gentlemen driving on that part of the Course, which is, or ought to be, allotted to the equestrians. Many of these *Jehus*, however, drive there, not because they like it, but because their horses do. To all such beginners, I propose, at least, one week's practice on the Circular Road, which will save us horsemen from much annoyance, and themselves from the ridicule, with which a bad driver is always treated by his *Brothers of the Thong*.

I am a timid old gentleman, and when I see these young fellows, "*share by me*," as they call it, I always think that I have more real cause of alarm than ever Lord Sidmouth had from the *Radical Reformers*.

December 31, 1821.

EQUES.

NOTE OF THE EDITOR.

Our Correspondent is not, perhaps, aware, that we have already delivered our decided opinion on the impropriety of the practice here complained of. In the CALCUTTA JOURNAL of November 7, 1820, is a Letter headed, "Perils of the Course," signed "EQUESTRIAN," to which a long Editorial Note is appended; and in the Paper of the 9th of the same month, is another short Letter, headed, "RIGHTS OF THE COURSE," on the same subject. For the information of our present Correspondent, however, who may not have access to the Papers in question, we subjoin the first and last paragraphs of the Editorial Note on the letter of EQUESTRIAN in 1820, adding that our opinion on that subject remains unchanged:—

Note.—We cannot omit to add our humble voice to that of EQUESTRIAN, in deprecating a practice which is attended with so much risk of confusion and danger. The distinction between the soft and hard parts of a Public Course, are as evidently intended to divide one class of its frequenters from another, as the flag pavement, and the rough central road of a Public Street; and if there are no positive Rules to enjoin the distinct separation and appropriate use of each, it is no doubt because it is left to the good sense of the community at large to observe them as intended.

If, however, the good sense and justice of those who frequent any public place of recreation be not sufficient to ensure their observance of order, we think that Municipal Regulations should be enacted, and the letter as well as spirit of those Rules most inflexibly maintained, without fear or favor, in order that those who are willing to observe the distinctions necessary for the safety of all, be not rendered liable to have that safety endangered by the caprice or carelessness of a few.—Ed.

The Late Mr. Bathurst.

"He was a man, take him for all in all,
"We shall not look upon his like again."

SHAKESPEARE.

To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

SIR,

Ever since the melancholy event occurred, by which the world has been deprived of the respected and lamented subject of this Letter, I have been waiting with impatient anxiety for some one, abler than myself, to draw the sketch, which, with a conscious inability, I have at length resolved upon attempting. It is a matter to me of no inconsiderable surprise, that a person possessed in his lifetime of many friends, (and, in this land of apathy, few—very few—can boast of such a number as he could,) and endowed with so many excellent qualities, should be allowed to depart from among them unnoticed; and, as it were, to carry with him to the grave those virtues which so adorned him when living; and the exercise of which served to render his death as sorrowful to others, as it was peaceful to himself. I cannot account for this omission in any other way than by supposing that what all wished to have performed, no one thought himself capable of performing; and under this impression I feel so great a want of confidence in my own powers, that nothing less than the extreme regard I felt for him while living, and my veneration for his memory, could have induced me to have entered upon a task, to the performance of which I cannot but feel my total inadequacy.

We might search long in the mournful annals of mortality, before we meet with the name of a man who was more generally beloved than the late Mr. Bathurst; or whose remembrance will be longer, or more warmly, cherished than his will be, by all who had the peculiar felicity of enjoying his friendship or his acquaintance. Many thousands die who are not missed beyond the small circumference of their family circle; but the place of such a man as this will long remain vacant in society—the loss of a truly good man is not so quickly supplied. Mr. Bathurst was possessed of every quality that is calculated to gain the love and esteem of a world not easily pleased; and no one ever enjoyed a larger proportion than he of mankind's attachment. His expansive heart was the seat of all the most eminent and social virtues; and his well-stored mind abounded with every artificial excellence. A munificence unrestrained; an integrity incorruptible; an independence which knew no fear; honor unsullied; and a glowing warmth that never experienced diminution; filled, even to overflowing, the former; and engendered a degree of practical philanthropy, which none, who had opportunities of witnessing it, will be likely to meet with again contained in a single breast. His mind was most amply furnished with both difficult and polite literature; and as its sources were never selfishly withheld, so they never failed to afford alike pleasure and instruction. His elegant Mansion was the constant seat of an unbounded hospitality, which never degenerated into debauchery. The purity of the fascinating society, which it contained within itself, was the means of regulating all that was admitted from without, by the choicest standard of refinement, rationality, and decorum; while the heart-flowing welcome, and manly unreserve of the owner, at once banished from his delightful abode that ungracious ceremony which blights the sweetest charms of existence, wherever it is allowed to shed its withering influence. A long life was rendered happy by the blessing of health, and the exercise of a constant benevolence; and it closed in the midst of that mental calmness and peace, which are the never failing attendants upon departing worth—the last earthly reward of a well spent life.

Such is a feeble—a very feeble—sketch of a character, to which no description will be thought adequate by those who knew him well; and from which those who had not that happiness will be able to form but a faint conception of the reality.

DE MORTUIS VERUM.

Sonnet.

There is, indeed, an intercourse of soul
That waves divide not, nor the circling year,
Nor distant clime, tho' far as pole from pole:
For kindred spirits are for ever near:
And oft in viewless shape congenial minds
Together meet, as erst in shady bower
The sister bands that to the whispering winds
Of Eden chaunted sweet at midnight hour
Their choral hymns—and thus in airy dream
Full oft thy wand'ring spirit have I woo'd
By haunted grove, or dull romantic stream;
Or trac'd in Fancy's visionary mood
Thy beck'ning form amid the fields of air
On fleecy cloud reclin'd, and flown to meet thee there.

Sale of Salt and Opium.

At the Honorable Company's public sale of Salt, which took place at the Exchange Rooms on Thursday and Friday last, Seven lacs of Maunds were disposed of at the average rate of Rupees 374 6 1 per 100 Maunds. This we believe to be a higher rate than usual, so that the proceeds of the whole will considerably surpass in amount the sums realized severally on the greater number of past sales. As the article of Salt, however, is left entirely to the management of native speculators, the result of its general sales is not likely to excite much interest among the great proportion of our readers; but the case is different with regard to Opium, in which the mercantile community of India is more or less interested, from the time that the Drug is exposed to sale by the Company, until it finally reaches the hands of the consumer. Accordingly our readers at a distance will be no doubt astonished, when we inform them of the circumstances that characterized the Opium Sale of yesterday, rendering it the most extraordinary one perhaps that has at all occurred.

At eleven o'clock, the time fixed for the commencement of the sale, only a few speculators, either European or Native, had made their appearance, but soon after they began to collect, and when the first lot was put up the price advanced briskly to 3000 rupees, at which many expected it would stop. The biddings, however, beyond that sum were not all tardy, and it was finally knocked down for sicca rupees 3,375. Some, who wished only to witness the commencement of the sale, now departed under the idea that this first price was beyond what the greater number of the subsequent lots could realize, but the event was far different from their expectation. The eagerness of the purchasers, who were chiefly natives, increased regularly and rapidly, until the price rose to 4,405, and the lots that then remained went off very briskly without any particular fluctuation in the sales. The Opium, which was in half-chests, fetched a price exactly in proportion to the rest, taking into account its acknowledged superiority both in quality and fitness for the China and other markets. The following are the general results:

Statement shewing the Result of the Opium Sale which took place on the 31st of December, 1821.

Quality.	chest sold.	Product in Sa. Rs.	Average per Chest.	Highest.	Lowest.
Behar in large Cakes	946	39,14,755	4,138 3 0	4,405	3,375
Ditto small ditto....	199	507,325	2,548 9 8	2,565	2,535
Benares	202	890,265	4,407 4 0	4,420	4,395
	1377	53,12,335			

Memorandum of the average Selling Prices of the Opium at the four preceding Sales.

	Years.	Behar Opium per Chest Sa. Rs.	Benares Opium per Chest, Sa. Rs.
Sale in December ...	1819	1999 15 3	2012 2 1
March	1820	2025 12 0	2088 9 1
December ...	1820	2435 1 9	2463 5 7
February	1821	2548 7 1	2493 8 5

State of the Weather at Kedgee on Sunday (December 30.)—Light breezes from the South Eastward, with hazy weather. Thermometer 69 at 2 P. M.—John Bull.

The End of all Things.

"BUT THE END OF ALL THINGS IS AT HAND." 1 PET. 4—7.

Written at the close of 1821.

Riding on the ruin
Appear'd the dread precursor of the judgment,
Lone Herald in the rout of the pale skies
Demolish'd, as he blew the fearful blast
That shook the world, and bade the gorging grave
Give up her dead. Ten thousand thousand heard,
Where the cold vault had watch'd their sleep of ages,
Or where th' unbottom'd sea had rested them
In her profound obscurity, or lost
In the black womb of earth, till her last travail
Disclos'd her thunder-stricken birth. Out cast
They stop'd, and calm or agoniz'd, beheld
The desolate flames rush on their yelling wings
To battle, worse than rumour ever told.
Pit'd in the forlorn turbulence above
The far-fam'd work of dominations (grown
Immortal with their ever-climbing marble
As flight on flight stupendous the proud columns
Marshall'd their ranks, with file impregnable,
And solemn dome, to brave the shock of time
And heaven at war with earth) huge crashing down
With funeral shriek of million voices, fell.
I saw as if in rude tempestuous whirl
Before the last delirious storm, all things
Frail and inconstant, worthy of such fate,
Blown to destruction. Pomp and vanity
Solemn or light, religious or profane;
Blazing regalia with its ornaments
Delusive as a childish dream; the show
Of chivalry, bright furbish'd casque and shield;
Troops conquer'd tumbling with dismay and fear;
Horses or pale or red with streaming mane
And fiery eye, hurl'd in disastrous flight,
Neighing their monstrous downfall, crush'd for ever;
A thousand riders thrown with humbled crest
Biting the dust, ignoble, slain, and lost;
Ten thousand flags of bloody scutcheon droop'd
Sham'd and dishevell'd; silenc'd the deep mouths
Enormous of artillery big with hurt;
Drums rent and thunderless, soft bugle trump,
And all the spirit-boiling things of war,
Sunk in the overthrow. The windy flame
Scourg'd them to hell, and scowling Death did urge
With lightning lash, brandish'd in his lean fist,
The last fought battle. Nations howl'd in yain.
The kingdoms of the world did haste away;
But man surviv'd, alone immortal he.

December 31, 1821.

CYTHERON.

To Correspondents.

The Correspondent who has taken the pains to transcribe for us the "GOLDEN RULES FOR JURYMEN," and to deposit them in our Lion's Mouth, will find that they have already been printed in the CALCUTTA JOURNAL of December 11, 1821. We are indebted, however, to the kindness of the Friend who has taken this trouble for us, and sincerely hope the ends of Impartial Justice will be attained, without the further necessity of calling public attention to this point more than has already been done.

Marriage.

On the 1st instant, at St. John's Cathedral, by the Reverend J. PARSON, Captain SAMUEL BEADLE, Commander of the WILLIAM MILES, to VIRGINIA DE L'ETANG.

Births.

On the 26th ultimo, at the house of her father-in-law, Mrs. ADAM GORDON, Junior, of Futtu Ghur, of a Son.

At Cannanore, on the 7th ultimo, the Lady of Major A. BALMAIN, of the 7th Regiment Native Infantry, of a Son.

Sporting Intelligence.

CALCUTTA NEW YEAR'S MEETING.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 1, 1822.

The New Year's Stakes of 100 Gold Mohurs each, for Horses imported in 1821.—G. M.

Three years, 6st.—Four, 7st. 7lb.—Five, 8st. 7lb.—Six, 8st. 12lb. and aged, 9st.

Horses that never won before 1st December, 1821, allowed 5lb. and Mares, &c. 3lb.—(Four Subscribers.)

1. Mr. Walter's b. f. *Sophia*, by *Poulton*, (J. Rowland) 4 years.
2. Mr. Treves's b. h. *Snake*, by *Haphazard*, 5 years.
3. Mr. Oakeley's ch. f. *Caroline*, by *Wofull*, 4 years.

3 to 1, on *Snake*.

The first year of a renewal of the Derby Stakes of 25 Gold Mohurs each, for Country Bred, three years old Colts, 8st. 7lb.—Fillies, 8st. 4lb.—C. D.

1. Mr. Oakeley's b. c. *Eaves Dropper*, (J. Fox).
2. Mr. Walter's, ch. c. *Kingfisher*.
3. Mr. White's b. f. *Fair Salopian*.
4. Mr. Black's b. f. *Windfal*, by *Delusion*, dam an imported English Mare, by *Worthy*.

Match for 50 Gold Mohurs.—Y. C. st. lbs.

1. Mr. Black's b. h. *Young Walton*, (J. Fox), 8 0
2. Mr. Jones's b. m. *Filbert*, 8 7

Time 57"

Match for 50 Gold Mohurs.—R. C.

1. Mr. Jones's gr. C. p. *Lochiel*, (J. Fox), 8 0
2. Mr. Thomsons's br. E. p. *Treesina*, 8 7

Match for 25 Gold Mohurs.—H. M.

1. Mr. Crosby's b. A. c. *Selim*, 7 0
2. Mr. Frederick's gr. A. h. *Little Johnny*, 8 0

Match for 25 Gold Mohurs.—R. C.

1. Mr. Jills's b. A. g. *Sweet William*, (J. Rowland), 8 7
2. Mr. Crosby's gr. A. h. *Jack*, 8 12

Match for 100 Gold Mohurs.—H. M.

1. Mr. Oakeley's ch. f. *Irene*, by *Flamingo*, (J. Fox), 8 1
- 3 years, 8 1
2. Mr. Walter's b. f. — by *Benedick*, 3 years, 8 8

Time 58"

Shipping Arrivals.

CALCUTTA.

Date	Names of Vessels	Flags	Commanders	From Whence	Left
Jan. 1	Eliza	Portz.	Joao Simois	Macao	Nov. 2

Another Ship, inward-bound, standing in from Saugor, name not ascertained.

Shipping Departures.

CALCUTTA.

Date	Names of Vessels	Flags	Commanders	Destination
Dec. 31	Orient	British	P. Wallace	London
31	Minerva	British	J. Russell	Penang
31	Caudry	Arab	Nacoda	Judah
21	Fattie Mobarruck	Arab	Abdullah	Judah

Stations of Vessels in the River.

DECEMBER 31, 1821.

At Diamond Harbour.—BAYADERE (F.) onward-bound, remains.—INVESTIGATOR (bark), ISABELLA, HERALD (Amrcn.) and ELIZA (P. brig) passed up.

Kedgerce.—GEORGE, (Amrcn.) passed down.

New Anchorage.—H. M. Ship LEANDER,—H. C. Ships MARQUIS OF WELLINGTON, THOMAS GRENVILLE, PRINCESS CHARLOTTE OF WALES, and ROSE.